

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 6 July 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
6 JULY 1967

1. Congo

The mutiny which began in Bukavu yesterday morning has spread to other areas of the eastern Congo. Mutineers apparently now control the airport at Kisangani (formerly Stanleyville), but Mobutu's assertion that they were assisted by paratroopers from outside the Congo cannot be confirmed.

It is still not clear whether the mutiny was planned some time ago, or is a reaction to Tshombé's kidnaping. In Bukavu, at least, the mutinous Katangan soldiers and the white mercenaries who support them have been friendly toward local civilians and foreigners. No Americans have been injured.

Mobutu appears to be keeping calm, but he will find it very difficult to regain control. His army has few capable units in the east, and probably none of these want to tangle with the mercenaries. Also, Mobutu has no means to transport any significant number of troops rapidly.

2. Burma

Peking is still trying to get back at Burma for the anti-Chinese rioting in Rangoon last week. The Chinese have twice demanded a public apology, and want to send airplanes to bring injured Chinese back to China.

Somewhat more ominously, Peking's propaganda (for the first time in many years) is proclaiming support for the Burmese Communist party's struggle against Ne Win's "reactionary" regime. We doubt, however, that the Chinese are ready to give the Burmese Communists--who are weak and divided--any real political or material support.

3. Middle East

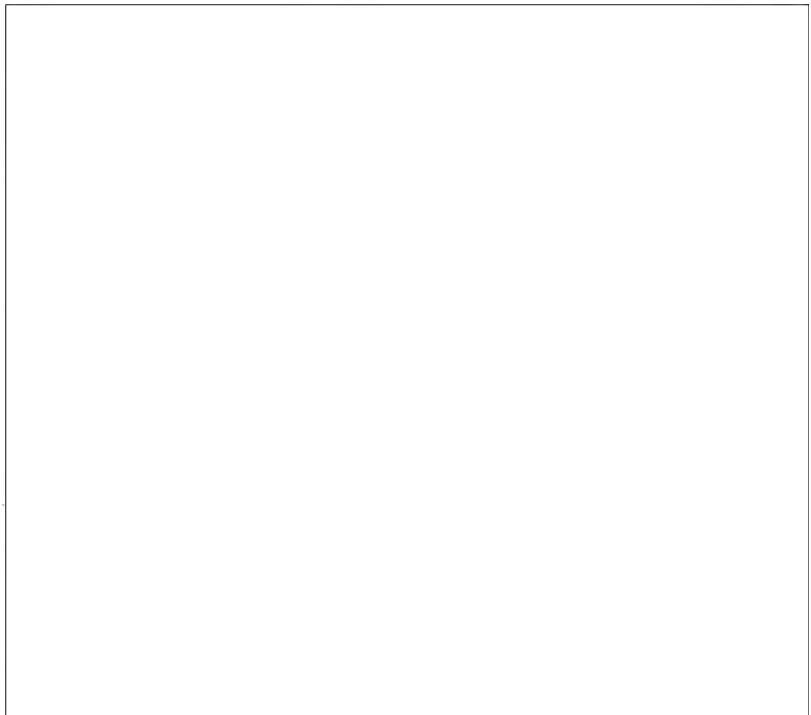
Defense Minister Dayan's announcement that Israel will in effect annex the Gaza Strip increases the pressure on the Arab states. As with Jerusalem, the Arabs are now confronted with permanent absorption of occupied territories unless they agree to discuss the future status of these areas.

The fact that Dayan, whose position on the future of occupied territories has been noticeably tougher than Foreign Minister Eban's, made the announcement is another indication of his prominence in the Israeli cabinet.

In New York, the emergency session of the General Assembly has recessed until next week. The US mission believes the Soviets realize they suffered a severe setback in yesterday's voting, and are considerably chastened.

4. North Vietnam

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5. Communist China

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6. Korea

The North Koreans are stepping up their harassment of South Korea, both by agent operations into South Korea and by increased aggressiveness along the Demilitarized Zone.

As many as 60 armed agents may now be roaming around in the South. Their mission is to set up bases for future guerrilla operations. In the last few weeks armed reconnaissance and probing attacks around the Demilitarized Zone, heretofore confined largely to the US sector, have been increasingly directed against South Korean personnel.

The North Koreans probably hope to kick up enough dust to discourage further South Korean troop contributions to Vietnam.

7. Aden

The British Army has regained control over most of the terrorist-infested Arab slum quarter. The nearly bloodless nature of the operation suggests some sort of agreement with Arab nationalists may be working. If so, this could ease tensions and give London a little better chance of putting together some sort of native government before it turns the whole place over to the Arabs in January.

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8. France

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